المجلس الاسلامي
**Islamic Council**

18 September 1990

Prof. Ghulam Azam
119 Qazi Office Lane
Maghbazar
Dhaka 1217
Bangladesh

Dear brother Ghulam Azam,

Assalaam Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatuhu.

I hope this letter finds you in good health and spirit.

I was delighted to be able to receive recently a Delegation from Bangladesh, headed by Maulana Matiur Rahman Nizami.

It is distressing that your citizen problems continue, but we pray that the situation will be resolved in due course. Please be assured that we will do anything within our power to help.

I know that the difficulties which plague you have not been able to prevent your work for the cause of Islam. May Allah reward you, and bless you always.

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

*16 Grosvenor Crescent London SW1 7EP Telephone 01-235 9832 Telex 894240 Islami G Cables ISLAMIAH*

المجلس الاسلامي
Islamic Council

12 September 1991

Professor Ghulam Azam
11a Qazi Office Lane
Maghbazar
Dhaka

Dear brother Professor Ghulam Azam,

Assalaam Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatuhu.

Thank you very much for your letter of 20 August delivered to me personally by brother Abdur Razzak. I greatly appreciate your remembering us and keeping in touch at every opportunity.

It was a pleasure meeting with brother Abdur Razzak and discussing matters of common interest with him. The establishment of the Centre for Human Rights and Third World Affairs is a most welcome step. It is my belief that the struggle for securing respect for human rights, especially in Muslim countries, is the crying need of the hour and I assured brother Razzak of our full cooperation with the Centre. May Allah bless this new organisation and enable it to fulfil the noble mission it has set for itself.

Brother Razzak brought me up to date with the situation in Bangladesh and he will no doubt inform you of our discussions.

By the way, we are continuing with our efforts concerning your citizenship and passport. I hope our latest effort will be successful.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

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المجلس الاسلامي
Islamic Council

12 September 1991

H E Begum Khalida Zia
Prime Minister of Bangladesh
Dhaka

Madam Prime Minister,

Assalaam Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatuhu.

I wish to bring to your kind attention the long-standing case of Professor Ghulam Azam which has distressed and pained not only Professor Azam but his many friends and admirers both in Bangladesh and in the Muslim world.

Professor Azam was born in Bangladesh and is a resident of Bangladesh. As such, he should have the automatic right to citizenship and a passport. This right, which he should enjoy according to every canon of law, has been denied to him and continues to be denied.

I have the privilege and pleasure of knowing Professor Azam personally. He has participated in a number of conferences and functions organised by the Islamic Council. He is a devout Muslim and committed to the cause of Islam. The denial of citizenship and a passport to him has deprived him of the opportunity to fulfil his Islamic duty to perform haj, causing him much disappointment and distress.

Madam, I appeal to you as Prime Minister of a Muslim state to dispense justice and compassion and to grant Professor Azam citizenship and a passport. Such an action would be greatly appreciated by the vast body of his friends and admirers.

May Allah guide your steps and enable you to contribute to the progress of Bangladesh and serve the cause of Islam.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

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المجلس الإسلامي

Islamic Council

12 September 1991

H E Justice Shahab Ud-din Ahmad
President of Bangladesh
Dhaka

Excellency,

Assalaam Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatuhu.

I wish to bring to your kind attention the long-standing case of Professor Ghulam Azam which has distressed not only Professor Azam but also his many friends and admirers both in Bangladesh and in the Muslim world.

Professor Azam was born in Bangladesh and is a resident of Bangladesh. As such, by any canon of law he should have the automatic right to Bangladeshi citizenship. Regrettably, this right has been denied to him and continues to be denied to him.

I have the privilege and pleasure of knowing Professor Ghulam Azam personally. He has participated in a number ofconferences organised by the Islamic Council. He is a devout Muslim and committed to the cause of Islam. The denial of citizenship to him, and a passport, has deprived him of the opportunity to perform haj, which is a great disappointment to him.

Excellency, I appeal to you for justice and compassion in dealing with this case and to grant Professor Ghulam Azam citizenship and a passport. Such an action would be widely acclaimed and appreciated by the vast body of his friends and admirers.

In concluding, I pray to Allah for peace and progress in Bangladesh and for your good health and long life.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

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مجلس اسلامی
Islamic Council

31 March 1992

Miss Caroline Moorehead
36 Fitzroy Road
London NW1 8TY

[Free lance journalist, particularly interested in human rights issues.]

Dear Miss Moorehead,

I am sure you are aware that the Bangladeshi government, on 24 March, ordered the arrest of Professor Ghulam Azam, who is the leader of the Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh, supposedly on the charge that he is a foreigner living illegally in Bangladesh.

Professor Azam was in fact born and brought up in what is now Bangladesh and cannot be branded as a foreigner by any stretch of the imagination. He is a religious scholar devoted to the cause of Islam and commands great respect and affection both within and outside Bangladesh. His arrest is a blatant violation of human rights and has caused great distress throughout the Muslim world.

I am writing to you in case you feel able to write to publicise this blatant act of injustice on the part of the Bangladeshi government, with a view to gaining the release of Professor Azam and the full restoration of his rights.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

المجلس الإسلامي
Islamic Council

26 March 1992

H E Mr Mustafizur Rahman
Foreign Minister of Bangladesh

Excellency,

Assalaam Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatuhu.

It has caused me great pain and distress to learn that Professor Ghulam Azam, Amir Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh, has been arrested on the charge that he is a foreigner living illegally in Bangladesh.

As Your Excellency is aware, Professor Azam was born and brought up in what is now Bangladesh and cannot be branded as a foreigner by any stretch of the imagination. He is a religious scholar devoted to the cause of Islam and commands great respect and affection both within and outside Bangladesh. His arrest is bound to be viewed as a clear violation of human rights and will tarnish the name of the government of Bangladesh.

I appeal to you most earnestly to use your high position and authority to have the order of his arrest rescinded and Professor Azam released unconditionally and the injustice done him redressed. Muslims everywhere are following his case with great concern and are waiting anxiously to hear the news of his unconditional release and the restoration of his rights as an honourable citizen of Bangladesh.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

المجلس الإسلامي
Islamic Council

27 March 1992

Professor Dr Necmettin Erbakan

Dear brother Professor Dr Necmettin Erbakan,

Assalaam Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatuhu.

We have learnt with great distress of the arrest of Professor Ghulam Azam, Amir Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh, supposedly on the charge that he is a foreigner living illegally in Bangladesh.

As I am sure you are aware, Professor Azam was born and brought up in what is now Bangladesh and cannot be branded as a foreigner by any stretch of the imagination. He is a religious scholar devoted to the cause of Islam and commands great respect and affection both within and outside Bangladesh. His arrest is a blatant violation of human rights and will tarnish the name of the government of Bangladesh.

I appeal to you most earnestly to seek an urgent interview with the Bangladeshi Ambassador to Turkey for him to intercede with the Bangladeshi government for the immediate and unconditional release of Professor Azam and for the injustice done him to be redressed. Muslims everywhere are following his case with great concern and are waiting anxiously to hear the news of the restoration of his rights as an honourable citizen of Bangladesh.

With kind regards, and wishing you the blessings of Ramadan,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

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اللجنة الاسلامية الدولية لحقوق الانسان
International Islamic Commission on Human Rights
La Commission Islamique Internationale
pour les Droits de l'Homme

27 March 1992

Mr Ian Martin
Amnesty International

Dear Mr Martin,

The Bangladeshi government, on 24 March, arrested Professor Ghulam Azam, who is the leader of the Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh, supposedly on the charge that he is a foreigner living illegally in Bangladesh.

Professor Azam was in fact born and brought up in what is now Bangladesh and cannot be branded as a foreigner by any stretch of the imagination. He is a religious scholar devoted to the cause of Islam and commands great respect and affection both within and outside Bangladesh. His arrest is a blatant violation of human rights and will tarnish the name of the government of Bangladesh.

I appeal to you to act urgently to intercede with the Bangladeshi government for the immediate and unconditional release of Professor Azam and for the injustice done him to be redressed. Muslims everywhere are following his case with great concern and are waiting anxiously to hear the news of the restoration of his rights as an honourable citizen of Bangladesh.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

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اللجنة الاسلامية الدولية لحقوق الانسان

International Islamic Commission on Human Rights

La Commission Islamique Internationale
pour les Droits de l'Homme

27 March 1992

Mr J Th Möller
UN Centre for Human Rights

Dear Mr Moller,

The Bangladeshi government, on 24 March, ordered the arrest of Professor Ghulam Azam, who is the leader of the Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh, supposedly on the charge that he is a foreigner living illegally in Bangladesh.

Professor Azam was in fact born and brought up in what is now Bangladesh and cannot be branded as a foreigner by any stretch of the imagination. He is a religious scholar devoted to the cause of Islam and commands great respect and affection both within and outside Bangladesh. His arrest is a blatant violation of human rights and will tarnish the name of the government of Bangladesh.

I appeal to you to act urgently to intercede with the Bangladeshi government for the immediate and unconditional release of Professor Azam and for the injustice done him to be redressed. Muslims everywhere are following his case with great concern and are waiting anxiously to hear the news of the restoration of his rights as an honourable citizen of Bangladesh.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

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اللجنة الاسلامية الدولية لحقوق الانسان

International Islamic Commission on Human Rights

La Commission Islamique Internationale
pour les Droits de l'Homme

27 March 1992

Lord Avebury
Houseof Lords

Dear Lord Avebury,

The Bangladeshi government, on 24 March, ordered the arrest of Professor Ghulam Azam, who is the leader of the Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh, supposedly on the charge that he is a foreigner living illegally in Bangladesh.

Professor Azam was in fact born and brought up in what is now Bangladesh and cannot be branded as a foreigner by any stretch of the imagination. He is a religious scholar devoted to the cause of Islam and commands great respect and affection both within and outside Bangladesh. His arrest is a blatant violation of human rights and will tarnish the name of the government of Bangladesh.

I appeal to you to act urgently to intercede with the Bangladeshi government for the immediate and unconditional release of Professor Azam and for the injustice done him to be redressed. Muslims everywhere are following his case with great concern and are waiting anxiously to hear the news of the restoration of his rights as an honourable citizen of Bangladesh.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

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اللجنة الاسلامية الدولية لحقوق الانسان
International Islamic Commission on Human Rights
La Commission Islamique Internationale
pour les Droits de l'Homme

27 March 1992

Mr Niall MacDermot
ICJ

[International Commission of Jurists, Geneva]

Dear Mr MacDermot,

The Bangladeshi government, on 24 March, arrested Professor Ghulam Azam, who is the leader of the Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh, supposedly on the charge that he is a foreigner living illegally in Bangladesh.

Professor Azam was in fact born and brought up in what is now Bangladesh and cannot be branded as a foreigner by any stretch of the imagination. He is a religious scholar devoted to the cause of Islam and commands great respect and affection both within and outside Bangladesh. His arrest is a blatant violation of human rights and will tarnish the name of the government of Bangladesh.

I appeal to you to act urgently to intercede with the Bangladeshi government for the immediate and unconditional release of Professor Azam and for the injustice done him to be redressed. Muslims everywhere are following his case with great concern and are waiting anxiously to hear the news of the restoration of his rights as an honourable citizen of Bangladesh.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

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المجلس الإسلامي
Islamic Council

27 March 1992

H E Dr Hamid al Gabid
Secretary General
Organisation of the Islamic Conference

Excellency,

Assalaam Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatuhu.

We have learnt with great distress of the arrest of Professor Ghulam Azam, Amir Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh, supposedly on the charge that he is a foreigner living illegally in Bangladesh.

As I am sure Your Excellency is aware, Professor Azam was born and brought up in what is now Bangladesh and cannot be branded as a foreigner by any stretch of the imagination. He is a religious scholar devoted to the cause of Islam and commands great respect and affection both within and outside Bangladesh. His arrest is a blatant violation of human rights and will tarnish the name of the government of Bangladesh.

I appeal to you most earnestly to use your high position as Secretary General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference to intercede with the Bangladeshi government for the immediate and unconditional release of Professor Azam and for the injustice done him to be redressed. Muslims everywhere are following his case with great concern and are waiting anxiously to hear the news of the restoration of his rights as an honourable citizen of Bangladesh.

With kind regards, and wishing you the blessings of Ramadan,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

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المجلس الإسلامي
Islamic Council

26 March 1992

H E Begum Khalida Zia
Prime Minister of Bangladesh

Excellency,

Assalaam Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatuhu.

The news of the arrest of Professor Ghulam Azam, Amir Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh, has caused us feelings of immense shock, pain and anger. His arrest, reportedly on the charge of his being a foreigner living illegally in Bangladesh, is ridiculous beyond belief. As Your Excellency is no doubt aware, Professor Azam was born and brought up in what is now Bangladesh and can by no stretch of the imagination be branded as a foreigner. He is a religious scholar dedicated to the cause of Islam and commands great respect and affection both within and outside Bangladesh. His arrest is seen as a blatant violation of human rights and will reflect poorly on the credibility of your government and tarnish its name.

We appeal to you most earnestly to release Professor Azam forthwith and redress the injustice done to him. Muslims everywhere are following his case with great concern and are waiting anxiously to hear the news of his unconditional release and the restoration of his rights as an honourable citizen of Bangladesh.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

16 Grosvenor Crescent London SW1 7EP Telephone 01-235 9832 Telex 894240 Islami G Cables ISLAMIAH

المجلس الإسلامي
Islamic Council

30 March 1992

H E Dr Humayun Khan
High Commission for Pakistan
35 Lowndes Square
London SW1X 9JN

Excellency,

Assalaam Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatuhu.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to forward the enclosed letter to His Excellency the Prime Minister of Pakistan as soon as possible. We have been unable to get through to him by fax since last Friday.

With my thanks, and with best wishes for Eid Mubarak,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

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المجلس الاسلامي
Islamic Council

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...E Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif
Prime Minister of Pakistan

Excellency,

Assalaam Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatuhu.

We have learnt with great distress of the arrest of Professor Ghulam Azam, Amir Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh, supposedly on the charge that he is a foreigner living illegally in Bangladesh.

As I am sure Your Excellency is aware, Professor Azam was born and brought up in what is now Bangladesh and cannot be branded as a foreigner by any stretch of the imagination. He is a religious scholar devoted to the cause of Islam and commands great respect and affection both within and outside Bangladesh. His arrest is a blatant violation of human rights and will tarnish the name of the government of Bangladesh.

I appeal to you most earnestly to use all the influence of your position as Prime Minister of Pakistan to intercede with the Bangladeshi government for the immediate and unconditional release of Professor Azam and for the injustice done him to be redressed. Muslims everywhere are following his case with great concern and are waiting anxiously to hear the news of the restoration of his rights as an honourable citizen of Bangladesh.

With kind regards, and wishing you the blessings of Ramadan,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

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المجلس الإسلامي
Islamic Council

8 April 1992

Mr Abdur Razzaq
Centre for Human Rights and Third World Affairs
Dhaka

Dear brother Abdur Razzaq,

Assalaam Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatuhu.

Thank you for your fax, CHR18/92 of 7 April.

The Islamic Council is indeed campaigning vigorously for the release of Professor Ghulam Azam. For your information, we have also been campaigning for several years for the restoration of his Bangladeshi citizenship.

Please rest assured that on our own as well as in conjunction with other Islamic and human rights organisations, we shall continue the campaign until Professor Azam has been released and his citizenship recognised by the government.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General